

What is claimed is:

1. A master information carrier for magnetic transfer comprising:

5 a substrate having a pattern of protrusions and recesses corresponding to information to be transferred to a slave medium; and

a magnetic layer formed on the pattern of protrusions and recesses of the substrate, wherein:

10 the entire area of the magnetic layer on the pattern of protrusions and recesses is coated with a protective coating; and

surface free energy of the protective coating is in a range of 57 mN/m - 69 mN/m.

15 2. The master information carrier for magnetic transfer, as defined in Claim 1, wherein a DLC coating is used as the protective coating.

3. A method for producing a magnetic disk which carries information represented by a signal pattern, the method comprising the steps of:

20 initial-magnetizing a magnetic recording layer by applying a magnetic field in a predetermined direction to a disk-shaped slave medium having the magnetic recording layer at least on a surface of a non-magnetic substrate; and

25 magnetically transferring information by applying a magnetic field in an approximately opposite direction to the direction in initial-magnetizing while the magnetic recording

layer on the slave medium, which has been initial-magnetized and a surface of a disk-shaped master information carrier which includes a substrate having a pattern of protrusions and recesses corresponding to information to be transferred to the slave medium and a magnetic layer formed on the pattern of protrusions and recesses of the substrate are placed in close contact with each other, wherein:

the entire area of the magnetic layer on the pattern of protrusions and recesses is coated with a protective coating;

and

surface free energy of the protective coating is in a range of 57 mN/m - 69 mN/m.